## **REMARKS**

To facilitate prosecution on the merits, claims 1-20 are cancelled and new claims 21-27 are added.

Claims 1, 3-10 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,324,581 to Xu et al ("Xu") in view of U.S. Patent 5,933,104 to Kimura ("Kimura"). All of claims 1-20 are canceled. New independent claim 21 sets forth recitations which are not shown even in a combination of Xu and Kimura. For example, claim 21 recites a method including copying, through a data pipe, first and second chunks of data in distinct formats. These recitations are not shown even in a combination of the cited prior art. Allowance of new claims 21-27 is therefore respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 02-4270.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven S. Rubin Reg. No. 43,063 BROWN RAYSMAN MILLSTEIN

FELDER & STEINER LLP

900 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10022

Tel: (212) 895-2000 Fax: (212) 895-2900

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Annette Meija

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